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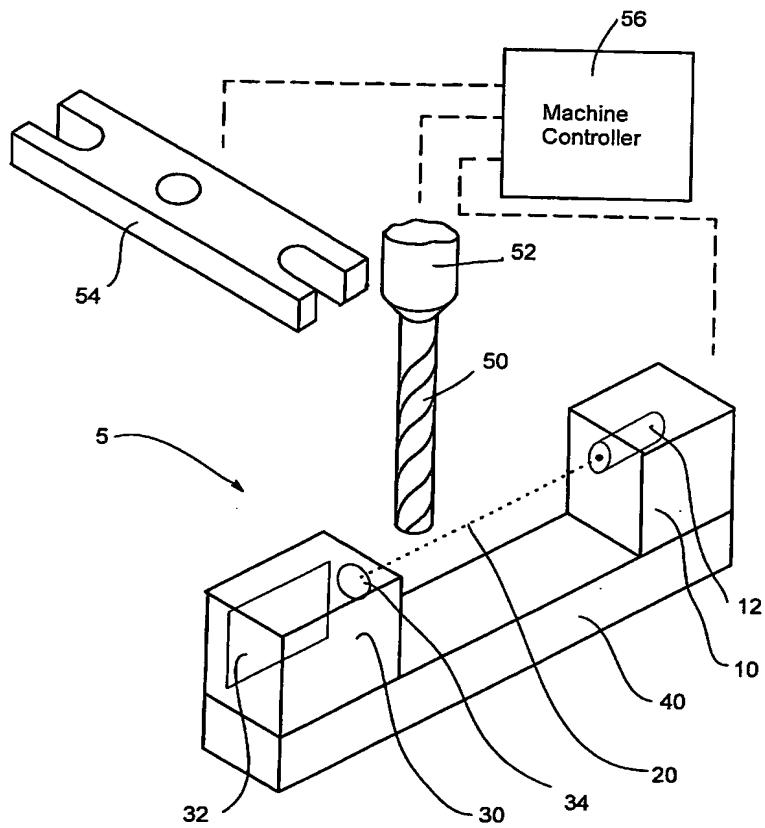
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TOOL ANALYSIS DEVICE AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a device and method for analysis of a tool (50) e.g. used on a machine tool. A tool detector (5) includes a light emitter (12) and a light receiver (34). Tool (50) when progressed into a beam (20) of light emitted from the emitter (12) will cause a signal from the receiver to change. Circuitry (32) includes a digital signal processor which processes the signal from the receiver and produces an output only if the signal conforms to a predetermined condition. Preferably this predetermined condition could be e.g. a characteristic shape of the signal from the receiver, a change in a value derived from a succession of such signals or a change in the minimum or maximum values of a succession of signals from the receiver.

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 004 930 A (GREMAUD HENRI ET AL) 2 April 1991 (1991-04-02) column 5, line 22 - line 54; figures 1-4	1-12
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A	EP 1 050 368 A (RENISHAW PLC) 8 November 2000 (2000-11-08) the whole document	1-12

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Information on patent family members

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